

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please insert the following at page 1, line 9:

BACKGROUND

Please insert the following at page 2, line 12:

SUMMARY OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Please insert the following at page 3, line 19:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Please replace the paragraph beginning page 11, line 13, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The invention is also implemented by a process for joining two or more workpieces as ~~claimed in claim 24~~. A production process which includes a process of this type can be carried out quickly, so that it is possible to reduce the manufacturing costs. This applies in particular to processes for cohesively joining a plurality of workpieces, but is also achieved in other joining processes, such as for example mechanical joining, in which case under certain circumstances it may be necessary to (re)heat the workpiece in order to apply the process according to the invention.